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HUNGARIAN WEATHER REPORTS FOR PERIOD
12 JUNE - 18 AUGUST 1952

[All temperatures are in degrees centigrade. Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

12 - 27 June

During the 2-week period from 12 June to 27 June, the weather was changeable and predominantly warm, with moderate rainfall throughout the country. The daily temperature highs were above normal.

Around 10 June, temperature rises to 25 degrees occurred sporadically. Summer temperatures were reached suddenly on 13 June and lasted without interruption until 23 June. During this period, the temperature over most of the country rose above 30 degrees; on 18 June, the temperature throughout the country was 30-32 degrees. After a cool air current, which reached Hungary on 24 June and brought rains, the temperature dropped by 8-10 degrees and continued to drop during the following days.

Night temperatures also were extremely variable. During the night of 12 - 13 June, temperatures were below 10 degrees in many parts of the country; in the northern part of the region west of the Tizra, 5-6 degrees were measured 1½ meters above the ground. At the same time, surface temperature ranged from 2 to 4 degrees in several places. During the following nights lows were around the normal of 15 degrees, while toward 20 June the nights were very mild (18-20 degrees). After the sudden cooling off on 24 June, the nightly minimums were 10-13 degrees, and in many parts of the Great Plain 4-7 degrees were measured on the surface.

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Rain fell on several days but only in small quantities. On 14, 16, 23, and 26 June, precipitation was nationwide, and on 19, 20, 24, and 25 June, rain fell on more than half of the country. Most of the precipitation fell during thunderstorms. In some places 20-30 millimeters of rain fell on 14 and 16 June; however, precipitation amounted to less than 5 millimeters in most parts of the country. On 14, 16, 18, and 20 June hail was reported in several localities.

In most parts of Transdanubia, precipitation between 1 and 26 June was over 50 millimeters, exceeding 70 millimeters in the western and southern parts. Kapuvár reported 100 millimeters. The major part of the northern mountain region received 50-80 millimeters, but most of the Great Plain received less than 50 millimeters, and in the region between the Danube and the Tisza, as well as east of the Tisza, only 20-30 millimeters were reported.

Precipitation was above average in the northwest and in the southeastern corner of Transdanubia during June. However, in the rest of the country precipitation was below average, and most parts of Borsod, Feves, Szolnok, and Pest megyék received less than half of their June rain average by the 26th.

The warm weather and the moderate rainfall of the past few weeks were good for the ripening of the grain, but in most parts of the country the root crops and fodder plants need more rain.(1)

28 June - 26 July

During this 4-week period, the weather was unusually hot and dry. The temperature rose above 25 degrees everyday throughout the country; in fact, it was above 30 degrees during most of the period. On 5, 15, and 23 July, the temperature rose to 35-37 degrees. A high was reached on 15 July and 36-39 degrees were measured in the southern and eastern parts of the Great Plain. Toward the end of the 4-week period a sudden drop occurred, and on 25 July only 20-24 degrees were recorded at noon.

Nocturnal temperatures were also high. During the greater part of the 4 weeks, nocturnal minimums were 15-20 degrees; on several nights during the first part of July the temperature fluctuated between 20 and 22 degrees.

There was unusually little precipitation. Between 28 June and 14 July, a measurable quantity of rain fell over small areas on only 2 days (5 and 12 July). Nationwide rain fell on 15 and 16 July, and on 18, 23, 24, and 25 July over half the country received rain. The precipitation fell in an irregular area pattern in the form of thunderstorms.

In some thunderstorm centers (around Szentgotthard and the Kekesteto in the Matra) precipitation during these 4 weeks exceeded 100 millimeters, but these are the outstanding exceptions. Only the Mako region and the western part of Transdanubia reported over 30 millimeters, while isolated localities reported over 50-60 millimeters (Lenti in Zala Megye, 64 millimeters). Approximately 80 percent of the country had less than 20 millimeters of rainfall, and approximately 70 percent had less than 10 millimeters. In many areas precipitation was below 5 millimeters.

As compared to the average, only the above-mentioned thunderstorm centers had an excess of rain. Approximately 75 percent of the country received less than a quarter of the average precipitation for the 4-week period, and parts of the whole country received less than one tenth.

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The unusually dry and hot weather was beneficial for harvesting and threshing operations, but developing crops feel the lack of rain very much.(2)

27 July - 12 August

The unusually hot and dry weather continued during the 2-week period from 27 July to 12 August, with diurnal temperatures far above average.

After the cooling off on 25 July, the temperature again rose to 30-32 degrees in most parts of the country. This rise continued and spread over the whole country until 35-37 degrees were reached again after 3 August. After 7 August, there was a drop of a few degrees.

Nocturnal temperatures were also high, with a drop of only 7-10 degrees.

There was little precipitation. During the period under review, small quantities of rain fell on 11 days. Only on 29 July, 7 August, and 10 August were there rains which extended over half the country. In most areas the precipitation was only between 5 and 10 millimeters.

As compared to the average, there was a lack of moisture everywhere. Most of Hungary received less than half the usual precipitation, and in many regions the rainfall was less than one quarter or even one tenth of the average.

All plants need heavy rainfall.(3)

Nationwide Rain on 17 and 18 August

On 17 and 18 August, nationwide thunderstorms followed the dry heat wave which had lasted for days. The first Sunday rains occurred in the vicinity of Mosonmagyaróvár and Győr; at 1700 hours it started to rain in the Szombathely area, and at 1900 hours at several other localities in Transdanubia. By midnight, precipitation fell over most of Transdanubia. The rain spread to the region east of the Tisza, where it rained almost everywhere after midnight. The extreme southeast (Szeged, Békéscsaba, Orosháza) received the least precipitation. The largest amounts were reported from the southwestern regions: Pécs, 39 millimeters; Kaposvár and Szigetvár, 32 millimeters; and Tab, 29 millimeters. Twenty-eight millimeters fell in Izsák (central Hungary), 27 millimeters in Barcs, Ercsi, and Nagykörös, and 24 millimeters in Szentgotthárd. On the average, the region east of the Tisza received less rain than the rest of the country (16 millimeters at Karcag in Szolnok Megye).

On Monday, the rain continued during the morning hours in most parts of the country. It rained until 1100 hours in Transdanubia, and by the noon hours the rain had reached the Great Plain.(4)

SOURCES

1. Magyar Mezőgazdaság, Vol VII, No 13-14, 1 Jul 52
2. Ibid., Vol VII, No 15, 1 Aug 52
3. Ibid., Vol VII, No 16, 16 Aug 52
4. Nepszava, 19 Aug 52

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